



News Release

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Sexual contact with client leads state to revoke counselor's license

OLYMPIA – Charges of sexual misconduct led the state Department of Health to revoke the professional credential of Clay V. Statewright (CP00006031), a chemical dependency counselor in Pierce County.

In September 2010 the state Department of Health charged Statewright with sexual misconduct and suspended his license. The statement of charges said Statewright initiated and maintained a sexual relationship with a client by threatening to provide negative reports to the court. The client risked being jailed if she didn't cooperate with the treatment.

Statewright asked for a hearing to contest the charges. The hearing was held May 5-8, 2011; a decision revoking his credential was issued June 2, 2011. Statewright's license had remained suspended since the initial suspension in September 2010. The hearing officer determined Statewright abused his position as a chemical dependency professional to seek a sexual relationship with a patient, resulting in harm to that patient. Statewright has 30 days to ask a court to review the Department of Health decision in this case.

Consumers who believe a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call the Department of Health at 360-236-4700 to report their complaint. A complaint form is available online (www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/documents/complaint.pdf). The form can be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed to the agency's Health Systems Quality Assurance division.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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Legal documents in this case are available by calling 360-236-4700 or online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the [agency home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). Consumers who believe a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call the Department of Health at 360-236-4700 to report their complaint. A [complaint form and directions on how to submit it are online](http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Complaint.htm) (http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Complaint.htm).

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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